EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that crimes are being committed at all the main crossings of roads in the National Capital on the pretext of beggary;

(b) whether Government have formulated any scheme to catch such beggars and send them to the beggar houses;

(c) whether any programme has been initiated to rehabilitate them; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) According to the information received from Government of NCT of Delhi, a number of beggars are active in Delhi.

(b) to (d): In Delhi, the Bombay Prevention of Begging Act 1959 is in force under which beggars are arrested by the Anti-Begging Squad of Government of Delhi with the help of Delhi Police. Thereafter, these beggars are produced before the competent court, who convict them to Custodial Homes run by the Government of NCT of Delhi in case of conviction. In Delhi, 12 Beggar Homes and one Rehabilitation Centre for Lepers is being run by the Government of NCT of Delhi. In these Homes, beggars are kept and also as a measure of rehabilitation, they are given vocational training in training centres of these Homes for the following:

1. Candle making
2. Cutting & Tailoring
3. Auto Repair
4. Detergent & soap making
5. TV and Radio repairs
6. Book binding
7. Cycle repairs

Delay in releasing amount for award of PMS for SCs/STs in Karnataka

393. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of SOCIAL

JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the Centrally sponsored scheme for award of Post-Matric Scholarship to persons belonging to the Scheduled Castes/Scheduled Tribes;

(b) the allocations made to various States under the scheme during the last three years, year-wise and state-wise;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government have so far not released this share amounting to Rs. 1051 lakhs to Government of Karnataka for implementation of the Scheme since 1998-99 onwards; and

(d) if so, the reasons for delay in releasing the amount and the likely date by when it will be released?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL JUSTICE AND EMPOWERMENT (SHRIMATI MANEKA GANDHI): (a) Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Post Matric Scholarship to students belonging to Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes provides financial assistance to eligible students who pursue recognised post-matriculation courses through recognised institutions. The scholarship under the Scheme includes maintenance allowance, reimbursement of compulsory fees, book allowance for students pursuing correspondence courses, study tour charges etc. Additional allowances are also provided to students with disabilities as defined in "Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act 1995". Government of India provides 100% central assistance to the State Governments and Union Territory Administrations for the expenditure incurred by them over and above the level of committed liability, which is the total expenditure incurred under this scheme during the terminal year of the previous Five Year Plan. This committed liability is required to be borne by the respective States/UTs. The requirement of committed liability has, however, been dispensed with in case of North East States,

(b) A statement revealing the State/UT-wise central assistance released under the scheme, during the last three years is enclosed. (*see below*)

(c) and (d) As against central assistance of Rs. 1050.328 lakhs, due for the years 1998-99 and 1999-2000, central assistance of Rs 807.19 lakhs was sanctioned to Government of Karnataka on 10.01.2000. Towards release of balance central assistance of Rs. 243.138 lakhs for Scheduled Tribes, the State Government has been requested to first utilise the unspent balance available with them at the end of 1998-99.

Statement

Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Post Matric Scholarship to SC and ST students - Central assistance released during last three years.

(Rs. in lakhs)

S.No.	State/UT	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
1.	Andhra Pradesh	1440.6	2980.339	3124.637	3197.288	2639.458
2.	Assam	314.8	625.985	52.038	0	285.98652
3	Bihar		0	0	0	797.152
4.	Goa	0.9	0.4	0	0	NIL
5.	Gujarat	767.2	762.75	494.89	0	50.254
6.	Haryana	75.4	70.7	2.26	0	57.57
7.	Himachal Pradesh	3.8	14.38	24.73	0	19.832
8.	Jammu & Kashmir	62.3	79.83	78.07	14.9	44.85
9.	Karnataka	830.9	1078.82	1374.526	0	NIL
10	Kerala	510.6	41.294	634.495		NIL
11	Madhya Pradesh	725.2	820.89	1982.79	0	NIL
12	Maharashtra	2084.4	2557.2	2371.8	967.78	471.24
13	Manipur	115.5	227.78	374.5	0	507.8
14	Meghalaya	143.2	96.6	371.843	0	749.058
15	Mizoram	142.4	122.4	144.5	0	521.008
16	Nagaland		243.427	404.9	0	1084.26
17	Orissa	313.5	741.291	531.43	47.16	57.35
18	Punjab	73.8	237.05	0	0	551.2841
19	Rajasthan	311.6	665.4	934.75	84.7	450.53
20	Sikkim		0	0	0	0.3729
21	Tamil Nadu	778.1	693	1817.74	396.78	958.86
22	Tripura	82.1	82.358	29.346	0	113.48448
23	Uttar Pradesh	386.9	1669.82	2070.823	705.392	621.65
24	West Bengal		635.286	1146.122	0	NIL
25	Andaman & Nicobar	0.7	1.28	1.85	0	1.0613

S.No.	State/UT	1994-95	1995-96	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
26	Daman & Diu	1.6	2.64	2.089	0	1.15164
27	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	4	5.68	0	0	1.83
28	Delhi		0	0	0	NIL
29	Guwahati Project		3	3	3	—
30	Pondicherry	11.3	26.03	20	0	13.95706
	TOTAL		14485.63	17993.13	5417	10000

Payment of Dues of HSCL Employees

394. SHRI S. RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the employees of Hindustan Steelworks Construction Limited (HSCL) are deprived of their dues towards Provident Fund and Gratuity; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government on the violation of labour laws by the Management of HSCL?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) Yes, Sir. Government is aware that the employees of Hindustan Steelworks Construction Limited (HSCL) are deprived of their dues towards PF and gratuity.

(b) The Government is seized of the problem and a non-plan loan of Rs. 79.33 crore has been sanctioned to enable HSCL to clear its statutory dues of PF and gratuity.

Land Occupied by VSP

395. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Andhra Pradesh Government has requested for surrender of surplus land occupied by the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant.

(b) if so, the action taken on the request; and

(c) the land proposed to be surrendered in public interest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI DILIP RAY): (a) to (c) The Government of Andhra Pradesh requested for reconveyance of Land to the extent of 1100 acres of Land by Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd. (Visakhapatnam Steel Plant) for the development of a minor port of Gangavaram.